

## BANKRUPTCY SUIT IS FILED AGAINST LEADBEATER & SONS

Oldest Wholesale Drug Firm in United States Is Sued in Alexandria.

ALEXANDRIA, Jan. 31.—A petition in involuntary bankruptcy was filed in the United States district court for the eastern district of Virginia this morning against the firm of E. S. Leadbeater & Sons, Incorporated, the oldest firm of wholesale druggists in the United States. The filing of the petition was not a surprise to many Alexandrians, as it had been known that the firm had been in financial troubles for some time, and that there were a number of claims against the company in the hands of local attorneys. A judgment was secured against it in the corporation court last week.

The petition for bankruptcy was filed by Attorney Gardner L. Routh, representing three creditors, the First National Bank of Alexandria, the Citizens' National Bank of Alexandria, and W. A. Smoot & Co., Inc. In the petition it is stated that the firm owes these creditors about \$40,000, as follows: First National Bank, \$10,000; Citizens' National Bank, \$10,000; W. A. Smoot & Co., Inc., \$20,000. The petition further states that the firm is unable to pay its debts.

The firm was established in 1892, and occupies the same place of business where it was started. Its officers are: E. S. Leadbeater, president; Edward S. Leadbeater, vice president; John Leadbeater, secretary and treasurer. The company was incorporated about ten years ago, and practically all of the stock is held in the Leadbeater family.

The fire, which was discovered at 3:30 o'clock last night in the third story of the warehouse of E. S. Leadbeater, Inc., in King street, between Lee and Union streets, caused damage to stock stored in the building of between \$500 and \$1000, and also damaged the building and the adjoining structure, occupied by the Virginia garage, to the extent of several thousand dollars. When the fire was discovered thick clouds of black smoke were pouring from the third story of the warehouse. The building had been closed since Saturday afternoon. There the fire began there was no material of an inflammable nature, the contents of this story being glass bottles, lamp chimneys, clothing, soap, mop handles, etc. On the second floor was stored a carload of matches, but only the top layer of boxes became ignited from the fire above. The second story also contained cereals and a miscellaneous stock, and the first floor was empty.

After the department reached the scene, water was poured into the third story for more than an hour before any flames were seen. The firemen were unable to enter the building because of the dense smoke. When the garage adjoining became ignited it was seen that the building owned by the Brothers estate was endangered, the new chemical and pumping engine was called into service.

During the fire, Chief Robert E. Gorman, while climbing a ladder in the elevator well of the Virginia garage, fell and was bruised and shaken up. He had to leave the fire, and C. J. W. Summers, chairman of the fire committee of the city council, took charge.

The home of Jefferson Atchison, in Rosemont, was entered by burglars last night and a breast pin valued at \$20 stolen. A quantity of silver ware and other jewelry which were in sight were not taken.

In police court this morning Charles Byrd, a colored boy, eleven years old, was sent to the reform school for stealing newspapers.

The Alexandria German Club will give a dance next Friday night at the Elks' Auditorium, at which the members of the Alexandria assembly will be its guests.

Arrangements have been made for a special train to leave Alexandria tomorrow night from King and Columbus streets at 7:30 o'clock to convey the members of St. Mary's Alumnae and their friends to Washington, where they will attend the performance at Polk's Theater.

The Mothers' Aid Society of St. Paul's Church will give a supper in the Parish Hall Thursday evening from 6 to 8 o'clock.

Navy League to Discuss Defense Here in March

The eleventh annual convention of the Navy League of the United States will be held at the New Willard Hotel, March 25, 26, 27, when constructive suggestions for national defense will be the order of the meetings.

Col. Robert N. Thompson, president of the league, will have charge of the meetings, and it is expected that special reports will be made regarding the growth of the woman's section.

## Blockade of Germany Impossible, Declares Admiralty Staff Chief

Admiral von Holtzendorff Asserts British Are Powerless to Stop Baltic Commerce From Sweden and Denmark to Germany—Supplies Already Abundant, He Believes.

By CARL W. ACKERMAN.  
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BERLIN (via wireless), Jan. 31.—An effective blockade of Germany is impossible, Admiral von Holtzendorff, chief of the German admiralty staff, declared today in an exclusive statement to the United Press.

England, he said, could under no circumstances stop commerce in the Baltic between Sweden and Denmark, and Germany. For weeks, he pointed out, no British submarine has had any success in the Baltic. The Russian fleet is frozen in Russian harbors.

The only effect of a declaration of blockade by the allies, the admiral stated, would be upon neutrals, and upon the women and children of Germany.

### BLOCKADE ONLY BLUFF.

"When I say a new blockade of Germany would be a bluff, don't misunderstand me," said Admiral von Holtzendorff, "Germany looks earnestly, but fearfully, upon any enemy plan to cause her women and children to suffer. But because such a blockade is impossible, I say it is a bluff."

"England's purpose is to make difficulties for our families, thinking this will affect the men in the trenches, and it will, for when the men learn that their families are being made to suffer by the enemy opposite them, they will be more determined to fight the harder."

"England's purpose in this war, as her officials have repeatedly stated, is to starve Germany and destroy her commerce. After eighteen months of war she has not been successful. Her 'effective' blockade will have absolutely no effect upon our military determination. We long ago prepared for any emergency."

The admiral is a small, plump, energetic man, with thick white whiskers and a hearty handshake. For five months he has held the important post as chief of the admiralty staff.

"What effect would a stricter blockade have upon Germany's military plans?" he was asked. "Absolutely no military advantage would be gained. Germany is defeated, her business forever ruined, and her international influence destroyed. The war will last until the allies learn they cannot accomplish their purposes. That may be a long time."

"Until we are victorious," came the immediate reply. "Germany is defeated, her business forever ruined, and her international influence destroyed. The war will last until the allies learn they cannot accomplish their purposes. That may be a long time."

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## ZEPPELIN ROUTED IN BATTLE ABOVE PARIS

Twenty-six Killed and Thirty-two Injured in Saturday Night Attack.

(Continued from First Page.)

panied by several of the Fokker "air taxis," may swoon down upon Paris any night.

The raids of Saturday and Sunday night, aeronautics experts write, undoubtedly were for the purpose of testing out Paris aerial defenses, preparation for greater raids.

The majority of the people of Paris only learned through their newspapers today of the second raid on the city last night. The "lights out" warning sounded at 9:30 o'clock while great crowds were in the boulevards, the theaters, and restaurants, but when the lights were turned on again an hour and a half later, it was reported that the Zeppelin had been driven off. It was several hours later that the police were informed of the pursuit of the Zeppelin over the suburbs.

Search for Bodies.

Squads of laborers are digging in the ruins of a five-story tenement building, split in half by one of the 900-pound bombs, for bodies today.

Auguste Petitjean, a sonnet, had obtained a leave of absence from the front and had reached home on Saturday evening, eager to escape the war for a few days with his family. While he sat at the table with his wife, his two little boys, and three other relatives, the war came to him. The bodies of all seven were found in the ruins of the wrecked tenement.

Another bomb exploded on a little cottage, blowing it to pieces. Still another crashed through the roadway above the subway, only an instant after a train had flashed by. Traffic on this section of the underground railway was interrupted all day yesterday.

Great crowds of Sunday sightseers visited the sections where the Zeppelin raider wrought death and destruction. A relief fund was started today for the Zeppelin victims.

LONDON, Jan. 31.—Bombs thrown by French aviators in the recent raid on

Freiburg destroyed a military train, killing and wounding a large number of soldiers, according to Zurich dispatches today.

## German Offensive Is Checked by Counter Attacks by Fr

Paris, Jan. 31.—The new German offensive has been checked by vigorous French counterattacks, the war office indicated this afternoon in a statement reporting German onslaughts diminishing in violence.

Having occupied some French trenches at four points in the German trenches, the Germans have been unable to make further progress and have been driven out of some of the conquered ground by hot fire from the French positions.

"North of Arras, in the region southwest of hill 140, two German hand grenades attacks were repulsed," said this afternoon's official statement.

"In the Champagne region, north of Reims, our artillery caused explosions at four points in the German trenches. In mine fighting in the Argonne we destroyed an enemy gallery near Haute Crevauches."

## 30,000 Austrians Are Taken by Italians

ROME, Jan. 31.—Thirty thousand Austrian prisoners, five guns, sixty-five machine guns, many thousands of rifles, and other war material have been captured by the Italians since the beginning of the war, said an official statement given today.

The official resume declared Italy entered the war because it was absolutely necessary that she correct the frontier imposed by Austria after 1866. During times of peace Austria fortified the Alpine frontier, rendering it practically impregnable. It was stated, while Austria at the same time held the key to Italy.

Twenty-five Austrian divisions, about 65,000 men, were massed along the 600-mile frontier, further reinforcing these defenses, when Italy declared war. They were commanded by General Denik in the Tyrol, General Rohr in the upper Adige valley, and General Borelli on the Isonzo.

"Despite the formidable Austrian defenses and adverse conditions, Italian troops crossed the Austrian frontier at the opening of hostilities and occupied important strategic positions at Cadore, Carnia, and on the Isonzo," said the official statement.

"Italian artillery now commands Tolmino and Gorizia, preventing the Austrians from approaching these important supply bases."

## SPEAKERS APPROVE SAFE BUILDING RULES

Hearing on Proposed Scaffold Regulations Held by District Commissioners.

Proposed amendments to the building regulations providing additional safeguards for men who work on scaffolding, were considered by the Commissioners at a hearing today to representatives of the painters' and decorators' unions and master painters and contractors.

The regulations, which it was stated, are endorsed by the Washington Building Trades Council, Local Union No. 286, Brotherhood of Painters, and the Local Labor Union, provide that all scaffolding swung from an overhead support more than ten feet from the ground shall have a safety rail of sufficient strength to bear any sudden strain. When swinging scaffolds are used it is provided that it shall be the duty of the employer to furnish safety lines for each man and to tie all hooks and hangers back on the roof and "at no time shall more than two men be allowed to work between two hangers or falls."

Among those who appeared were James L. Parsons, contractor; William F. Andrews, president of the Master Painters' Association; H. D. Digney, of Local Union, No. 286, Brotherhood of Painters; A. H. McGhan, and Charles MacNichol.

## Urges Putting Suffrage Bill Up to People

Miss Elsie Hill, a member of the executive committee of the Congressional Union for Woman's Suffrage, urged submitting the Susan B. Anthony suffrage amendment to the States during the present session of Congress, at the Bristerburg High School, in Fauquier county, Va., last night.

Earlier in the afternoon she addressed a crowd that met her at Catlett station, and on her way back to Washington this morning she spoke from the train platform at Briscoe, Knoxville, and Manassas.

Millions of people who had their turn at constipation, bilious attacks, acid stomach, nervous days and sleepless nights have become real cranks about the morning inside-bath. A quarter point of limestone phosphate will not cost much at the drug store, but is sufficient to demonstrate to anyone its cleansing, sweetening and freshening effect upon the system.—Adv.

## Men's Club to Meet.

The semi-monthly meeting of the Men's Club of Grace Episcopal Church, of Georgetown, will be held Wednesday evening at 8 o'clock in the parish hall, Wisconsin avenue and South streets. A specially attractive program has been arranged by the committee in charge and refreshments will be served.

## Jump from Bed in Morning and Drink Hot Water

Tells why everyone should drink hot water each morning before breakfast.

Why is man and woman, half the time, feeling nervous, dull and worried; some days headachy, dull and unrefreshed; some days really incapacitated by illness?

If we all would practice inside-bathing, what a gratifying change would take place. Instead of thousands of half-sick, inactive-looking souls with puffy, muddy complexions we should see crowds of happy, healthy, rosy-checked people everywhere. The reason is that the human system does not rid itself each day of all the waste which it accumulates while in the present mode of living. For every ounce of food and drink taken into the system nearly an ounce of waste material must be carried out, else it ferments and forms ptomaine-like poisons which are absorbed into the blood.

Just as necessary as it is to clean the ashes from the furnace each day, before the fire will burn bright and hot, so we must clear the inside organs of the previous day's accumulation of indigestible waste and body toxins. Men and women, whether sick or well, are advised to drink each morning, before breakfast, a glass of real hot water with a teaspoonful of limestone phosphate in it, as a harmless means of washing out of the stomach, liver, kidneys, and bowels the indigestible material, waste, sour bile and toxins, thus cleansing, sweetening and purifying the entire alimentary canal before putting more food into the stomach.

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3 Cans  
**25c**  
DOZEN CASE  
**97c \$1.90**

Champion Catsup  
3 Bottles **25c**  
**JELL-O**  
3 Packages **25c**

SPINACH  
Large Can  
**10c**  
Dozen **\$1.15**

Sunbright Cleanser  
3 Regular 5c  
Cans **10c**

Granulated Sugar  
4 POUNDS **25c**

CAN  
**12c**  
DOZEN CASE  
**\$1.40 \$2.75**

POTATOES  
Peck **33c**

**Old Dutch Market**  
**PAY DAY SPECIALS!**  
BIG SAVINGS IN FOODS FOR

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday  
PRIME NATIVE BEEF  
PORTERHOUSE STEAK, lb. **25c**  
SIRLOIN STEAK, lb. **23c**  
ROUND STEAK, lb. **20c**  
BEST HAMBURG STEAK, lb. **12c**  
CHOICE CHUCK ROAST, lb. **14c**  
FRESH BAKED PLATE BEEF, lb. **12c**

PURE LARD  
Open-Kettle Rendered, Lb. **12c**  
BONELESS BREAKFAST BACON  
MACHINE SLICED, Lb. **24c**  
SHOULDER OF LAMB  
CHOPS lb. **16c**  
SLICED BEEF LIVER, lb. **10c**

VAN CAMPS PORK AND BEANS  
WITH TOMATO SAUCE  
2 Reg. 10c Cans **15c** Reg. 15c Can **11c**

APPLES  
Grimes' Golden 1/4 Peck **10c** Peck **37c**  
York Imperial Wine Saps  
GRAPE FRUIT  
54 Size 4 for **25c** 70 Size 6 for **25c**

King Fisher CAN  
**9c**  
DOZEN CASE  
**\$1.05 \$2.05**

Sardines—  
In Oil or Mustard  
3 Cans **10c**  
Egg Noodles  
Reg. 5c Pkg. **4c**

DOZEN CASE  
**\$1.65 \$3.25**

Globe Crystal Soap  
8 Cakes **25c**  
Challenge Sauce  
10c Bottle **8c**

CAN  
**12c**  
DOZEN CASE  
**\$1.40 \$2.75**

ORANGES  
Florida's Doz. **15c**

CHOOSE a friend like you would yo' smokin' tobacco. Don't have one that ain't worth keepin' always an' that you won't grow to like better ev'ry day.

Velvet Joe

EVERY now and then some smoker tells us a new joy he has discovered in VELVET. If you want a smoke that never grows tiresome, smoke VELVET.

Lozano's Mop Tobacco Co.

